

Preparing for Printing

STEPHEN CROZIER – STEVE@360-DPI.COM

[HTTPS://360-DPI.COM/](https://360-DPI.COM/)

TEL: 01 276 4654

The steps

- ▶ Raw conversion / import
 - ▶ Input Sharpening
 - ▶ Scaling
 - ▶ 8/16 bit
- ▶ Check colour gamut
- ▶ Scaling to print size
- ▶ "output" sharpening
- ▶ File type

Raw conversion / import

- ▶ Input Sharpening
 - ▶ My opinion is don't use it.....
 - ▶ If you sharpen on input, when you scale the image you're scaling the sharpening.
- ▶ 8/16 bit
 - ▶ Most modern cameras produce images that are 10, 12 or even 14bit
 - ▶ So using 8 bit means you're losing information. IE sacrificing dynamic range
- ▶ Input scaling. With ACR, you can scale your raw file on import.

Colour Gamut

- ▶ Every paper / ink combination has different colour gamut
 - ▶ So you need to check how your image will fit.
 - ▶ Examples.....

Sizing

It is PPI
NOT DPI

Scaling

- ▶ So ideal is:
 - ▶ File should be the native resolution of the printer.... Canon and HP 300 ppi Epson 360 ppi.
 - ▶ Image should be the size of print. Ie 14 inches long for example.
 - ▶ Output colourspace should be either sRGB or AdobeRGB..... NOT prophoto.

Sharpening

- ▶ Soooooo.....
- ▶ There are loads and loads of different sharpening methods
- ▶ So not going to try show you all those now
- ▶ Some of the methods, unsharp mask (with channel mask), high pass, smart shapen. Etc etc
- ▶ Important that you DO NOT sharpen till image at print size

File type

- ▶ JPEG – small file easy to email etc 8 bit only
- ▶ Tiff - larger, not really emailable but can be 16bit
- ▶ PSD – a tiff with layers basically – adjustable etc etc

Aspect ratios

- ▶ Out of MOST cameras 3:2
 - ▶ 9*6, 12*8, 15*10, 18*12 etc etc

For competitions where mount has to be 20*16 or 500*400 approx., really wide pano aspects kinda look odd

Papers

- ▶ There is basically 4 types of photo paper
 1. Gloss / lustre
 2. Fibre based lustre / gloss
 3. Smooth Matt
 4. Textured Matt